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Lucile Speer to receive honorary doctoral degree at University of Montana commencement Sunday, June 12

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IMMEDIATELY

LUCILE SPEER TO RECEIVE HONORARY DOCTORAL DEGREE
AT UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA COMMENCEMENT SUNDAY, JUNE 12
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MISSOULA--

Lucile Speer, a staff member of the University of Montana Library for 40 years, will receive an honorary doctor of humane letters degree at the 1977 UM Commencement Sunday, June 12, on the Missoula campus.

UM President Richard C. Bowers will confer the degree upon Speer and will present her with a diploma. She will receive a special hood symbolizing her distinction, which will be given to her by Dr. Keith Osterheld, professor and chairman of the UM chemistry department, who will be a marshal at the commencement exercises.

In May, the Montana Board of Regents of Higher Education approved the recommendation from UM that Speer receive the honorary degree.

Speer, who lives in Missoula, came to Montana in 1919 to teach in the elementary school at Bonner after receiving her teacher training at Michigan State Teachers College, Ypsilanti.

While teaching at Bonner, Speer enrolled for summer and independent study at UM and earned a bachelor of arts degree in English in 1924. She received the master of arts degree in English from the University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill., in 1925 and taught secondary school in Kalispell from 1925-26.

Speer began working for the UM Library in 1928 and was appointed as a full-time staff member in 1930. She was documents librarian from 1938 until her retirement in 1968.

She has published several professional and public affairs articles and has participated in civic organizations such as the League of Women Voters of Montana and the Missoula County Democratic Club.

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Since retiring from the UM Library staff in 1968, Speer has remained active in professional organizations. She also was elected to the 1972 Montana Constitutional Convention and served on the convention's local government committee.

Besides being named the first president of the Montana Constitutional Society for 1973-74, Speer has been preparing an index to the transcript of the proceedings of the constitutional convention and she has received grants for the index publication from the Montana Committee for the Humanities and the Montana Bicentennial Administration.

The 80th Annual UM Commencement exercises will begin at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 12, in the main auditorium of the Harry Adams Field House on the UM campus. Friends and family of the graduates and the general public are invited to attend.

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